CONFIDENTIAL.

# Government of Madras

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

## G.O. No. 1802, 21st August 1931

Settlement—Resettlement—South Kanara—Wet lands—Reclassification—Orders passed.

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

# Government of Madras

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

## G.O. No. 1802, 21st August 193

Settlement—Resettlement—South Kanara—Wet lands—Reclassification—Orders passed.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 757, Revenue, dated 25th August 1902.

G.O. No. 917, Revenue, dated 9th October 1902.

II

**Reference from the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, F. No. 2897/31-1 (Confdl.), dated 27th June 1931.**

C. A. SOUTER, Esq., I.C.S.,

Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement.

*Read*—the following papers :—

(i)

Letter from W. R. S. SATHIANADHAN, Esq., I.C.S., Special Settlement Officer, Party No. IV, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue and Settlement (through the Collector of South Kanara) dated Cannanore, 18th May 1931, R.O.C. No. 572 Mis. 30/9.

[Settlement—Resettlement—South Kanara district—Transfer from single crop to double crop and from one class of wet land to another wet class—Report submitted—Orders requested.]

In paragraph 5 of the last settlement notification printed in B.P. No. 226, dated 17th October 1902, the wet lands are defined as follows :—" Wet land is land which has been levelled, bunded and adapted for the cultivation of paddy. It will be divided into three classes—(i) first-class wet lands will be lands yielding two wet crops, the irrigation of which is ordinarily by direct flow; (ii) second-class wet lands will be lands yielding two wet crops, the second irrigated mainly by baling, also lands yielding one wet and one dry crop—patla and mogaru lands—and other low-lying wet lands which, owing to their position, have an unfailing supply of water for the first crop; and (iii) third-class wet lands will be all less favourable situated wet lands."

Again, in paragraph 17 of the notification under the head 'second crop' it is stated as follows :—" On all land which regularly yields two wet crops, the charge for the second crop will be consolidated at one-quarter of the single-crop assessment. The consolidated charge must be paid, whether a second crop is grown or not. Occasional second crop on single-crop lands will not be charged. There will be no second-crop charge during the currency of the settlement on lands, which at the settlement are not assessed at the consolidated rate."

2. The points on which I request the favour of the Board's orders are—(i) whether, at the resettlement, any reclassification of wet lands amongst the three wet classes need be done (i.e., by allowing conversions of one wet class to another, viz., from a lower wet class to a higher class and vice versa) and (ii) whether there should be any transfer of single-crop wet lands to double crop and vice versa at the resettlement.

With a view to formulate proposals on the questions referred to above, ten villages were inspected (the inspections being carefully overchecked by Special Assistant Settlement Officers) in all the four groups as shown below :—

*Mangalore taluk.*—One special group village, four first-group villages and one second-group village.

*Kasaragod taluk.*—Two third-group villages.

*Puttur taluk.*—Two fourth-group villages.

3. The experimental inspection was carried out on the lines of the last settlement notification, that is, by adopting the definitions of the several wet classes as given therein ; and the results are exhibited in Appendices I and II * to this report.

Appendix I * shows, villagewar, the extent of changes in the wet lands amongst the wet classes (I, II and III) and also the financial results on account of such changes ; and it exhibits also the changes from single crop to double crop, and vice versa.

Appendix II * exhibits, villagewar, the various causes which led to such changes—settlement errors, improvement or deterioration subsequent to last settlement—as far as ascertainable on enquiry and inspection on the ground. Where the causes are not known, such cases are brought under a separate head.

4. It will be seen from the villagewar figures (vide Appendix I *) that the two coastal villages (No. 12. Panja and No. 48. Chelayru) show decreases in assessment by 3·55 per cent and 0·79 per cent respectively ; that the two third group villages (No. 96. Karindolam and No. 100. Panathadi) which are kumari villages show comparatively large increases in assessment by 5·64 per cent and 14 per cent respectively and that the other six villages (inland or hilly) show more or less uniform increases in assessment ranging between about 1½ per cent and 2½ per cent. The decreases in the coastal villages appear to be mainly due to settlement errors as detailed below :—

Lands are registered in the accounts as wet first class, double crop (*a*) where lands are irrigated by baling for the second wet crop, where only one wet crop is raised and (*b*) where no enal or first crop is cultivated on account of stagnating flood water, and the second and third crops are cultivated only by resorting to baling. The fairly large increases in the assessment in the third-group kumari villages are due to cases of settlement errors and improvements effected by ryots subsequent to settlement. The more or less uniform increases in the assessment in the remaining six villages (inland and hilly) are mainly due to improvements effected by ryots subsequent to settlement and partly also to cases of settlement errors.

5. Again, on an examination of changes involved in the wet lands under different classes (I, II and III) the following results are obtained :—

(*a*) *Wet first class, double crop.*—Out of an extent of 1,902·48 acres under this head in the selected villages, an extent of 102·18 acres or 5·37 per cent undergoes change to other heads, viz., wet second class, double crop, wet second class, single crop, and wet third class, single crop. This change results in a decrease of Rs. 149–1–0, or 1·14 per cent on the revenue assessment of Rs. 13,100–15–0 (Appendix I *).

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* Not printed.

(*b*) *Wet second class, double crop.*—Out of an extent of 114·37 acres, under this head, an extent of 19·52 acres or 17·07 per cent undergoes change to other heads, viz., wet first class, double crop, wet second class, single crop, and wet third class, single crop, and this change results in a net decrease of Rs. 3–9–0 or 0·46 per cent on the revenue assessment of Rs. 776–8–0.

(*c*) *Wet second class, single crop.*—Out of an extent of 1,065·61 acres bearing an assessment of Rs. 4,117–1–0 under this head, an extent of 210·84 acres or 19·79 per cent undergoes change to other heads, viz., wet first class, double crop, wet second class, double crop, and wet third class, single crop, and the resultant net increase in assessment is Rs. 354–9–0 or 8·61 per cent.

(*d*) *Wet third class, single crop.*—Out of an extent of 1,539·66 acres bearing an assessment of Rs. 3,612–1–0 under this head, an extent of 137·03 acres or 8·90 per cent undergoes change to other heads, viz., wet first class, double crop, wet second class, double crop, and wet second class, single crop, and the resultant increase in the assessment is Rs. 253–9–0 or 7·02 per cent.

Taking all the wet classes (I, II and III) together, it will be found that out of an extent of 4,622·12 acres in the selected villages, an extent of 469·57 acres or 10·16 per cent undergoes change. The net increase in the assessment on account of the change is Rs. 455–8–0 or 2·11 per cent over the revenue assessment of Rs. 21,606–9–0 (Appendix I*); its distribution and percentage under the several heads are given below :—

| | Rs. A. P. |
|---|---|
| (i) On account of settlement errors .. .. | 63 10 0 or 13·97 per cent. |
| (ii) On account of improvements effected by ryots. | 357 7 0 or 78·47 per cent. |
| (iii) Under causes not known .. .. .. | 34 7 0 or 7·56 per cent. |
| Total .. | 455 8 0 (vide Appendix II*) |

Applying the increase or the decrease per cent, under the several classes of wet lands (I, II and III) in the ten selected villages, to the total assessments in the respective classes of wet lands in the district as a whole, the net increase of revenue comes to Rs. 54,307–1–0 or 2·87 per cent over the total wet assessment of the district (Appendix III*). The figures for the district have been taken from Appendix E to the settlement introduction report printed in B.P. No. 211, dated 15th July 1905, as wet classwar figures according to the revenue accounts are not readily available now and as the change in the wet assessment, subsequent to settlement, would only be slight in view of the facts that no transfer from occupied or unoccupied dry to wet or from single crop to double crop wet is permitted during the settlement period and that the transfers, if any, effected would be only from porambokes and kumaris brought under wet cultivation.

6. The point for consideration is whether we should undertake the reclassification of the wet classes for the wet lands at the resettlement. I fear that the statistics compiled as a result of the experimental inspection discussed above, cannot be taken as quite accurately representing the state of things on the ground. In the South Kanara district, no cultivation account is maintained to show the kind and the number of crops raised on any particular wet land. We have to fall back upon the rather shaky data obtained by enquiry from ryots and village officers present at the time of inspection. This seems to be the only method of finding out anything about (i) the cultivation during the previous faslis, (ii) the state of ground during back faslis up to the last settlement, (iii) improvements, if any, effected subsequent to settlement and (iv) errors, if any, in registry of the wet classes that might have been committed at the last settlement. Ryots, being interested parties, are not likely to tell the

* Not printed.

truth, where truth-telling will prejudice their interests; nor can great reliance be placed on information obtained from village officers, as they may not be aware of the state of affairs during the past faslis, there having been no field-to-field inspection of wet lands in the district for the levy of fasaljasti or the like. Reference is, in this connexion, solicited to Appendix IV * containing extracts from the old settlement papers in regard to the classification of the wet lands into I to III classes. These extracts clearly show that, at the last settlement, before the definition for I to III classes of wet lands were finally laid down, there was no uniform practice; that instructions were frequently changing; and that several devices were adopted to remedy the discrepancies or inequalities amongst the wet classes or soil classification. In these circumstances, I submit that it appears to be undesirable and impracticable to apply now the tests for the wet classes laid down in the notification and to propose changes at resettlement accordingly. According to the results of the experimental inspection, it will be necessary in some cases to raise wet lands from class III to class I and in some others to raise the soil classification also in addition to raising the wet classes in order to assess the lands with reference to similar adjoining lands; that is to say, in order to do the work thoroughly a general reshuffling of classes involving enormous inspection work will have to be done. The increase in revenue is, after all, only 2·11 per cent over the existing wet assessment in the selected ten villages, and the estimated increase in the wet assessment for the district as a whole works out to only 2·87 per cent. As the total wet area of the district amounts to 424,695 acres, I doubt if the expense involved in the elaborate and detailed inspection necessary will adequately be compensated for by the estimated increase in revenue. Taking all these facts into consideration I submit that the existing wet classes and soils may be left undisturbed at resettlement.

7. The next point for consideration is the 'second crop' question. The total wet single-crop area under wet second and wet third classes in the ten selected villages is 2,605·27 acres out of which an extent of 253·60 acres or 9·75 per cent is fit for being treated as double crop. For the reasons already stated in paragraph 6 supra, accuracy of the above figure cannot be taken for granted.

In Malabar, at the last settlement, single-crop wet lands were allowed to be compounded at $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the single-crop charge on application by ryots; and such composition was allowed also during the currency of the settlement. Half the single-crop charge was levied for any second wet crop raised on registered single-crop lands. The applicability of such a system for South Kanara district was considered at the last settlement. It was on account of the difficulty involved in the field inspection of single-crop wet lands that the question was dropped. (Please see Mr. Couchman's letter No. 907/Eng., dated 24th July 1901—paragraphs 1 and 2 and paragraph 26 of B.P. No. 41, dated 15th March 1902, printed in G.O. No. 757, Revenue, dated 25th August 1902). In paragraph 16 of this Government Order, Government ordered as follows :—"Having regard to the difficulties attending field inspection in South Kanara and to the importance of encouraging the improvement of single-crop lands into double-crop lands, the Government agree with the Commissioner and the Special Settlement Officer that no extra charge should be made during the currency of the settlement on second crop grown on land not classed as double crop at the settlement. As regards what lands should be classed as double crop, the Government consider that (i) all land entered at the settlement as double-crop land in the first class should be classified as such and charged a consolidated wet rate of $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the single-crop rate, that (ii) similarly all land, on which though placed in the second class, a second wet crop has been regularly raised, should be classed as double crop and charged at the same consolidated rate." As above stated no charge for second crop will be made on land which only occasionally raises such a crop.

As already pointed out above there are no reliable statistics for double crop wet cultivation on single-crop wet lands; and does not seem desirable to compulsorily register as double crop the single-crop wet lands raising regularly

* Not printed.

two wet crops, as found after inspection, as the ryots may object to that, alleging that there is no regular double-crop cultivation, and this objection cannot be satisfactorily met in the absence of any authentic record of double-crop cultivation on single-crop lands. If, however, registered single-crop wet lands are left as such at resettlement and during the currency of resettlement, there will be an unnecessary sacrifice of revenue to the Government. I respectfully submit that the only practicable course seems to be to follow the system adopted at the last settlement for Malabar by allowing the ryots, on application to compound the rate at $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the single-crop rate for the single-crop wet lands, both at the time of resettlement and during the currency of resettlement, and by charging occasional second wet crop on single-crop wet lands at half the single-crop charge. By doing so, there will be an incentive to the ryots to compound, both at and during the currency of resettlement, at $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the single-crop rate rather than to be made to pay $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the single-crop rate by not compounding such lands. If this proposal is approved the Revenue Department will have to maintain regular and fieldwar cultivation accounts, to record the growth of second wet crop on registered single-crop lands; but, the trouble involved in this is set off to some extent at least by the fact that no future inspection will be necessary for such land once they are compounded. In course of time, all possible double-crop areas are likely to be compounded for and inspection work will also be considerably reduced.

According to the last settlement, wet first-class lands were all double crop, wet second class were partly double crop and partly single-crop and wet third class were all single crop. Now that, with reference to my proposals detailed above, there will be no reclassification of wet classes at resettlement, some of the lands under class III, registered as single crop, may have to be recognized as double crop on application from ryots at resettlement and during its currency.

8. As regards the question whether transfer of wet lands from double crop to single crop should be allowed or not, at resettlement and during its currency, it is submitted that, in the ten selected villages, out of a double crop extent of 2,016·85 acres, the extent of change to single crop is only 29·14 acres or 1·44 per cent. The change is trivial. Such transfer was not allowed at the last settlement of Malabar nor has it been proposed for resettlement. I do not therefore propose such transfers in respect of the South Kanara district.

(ii)

Letter from J. Hussain, Esq., Bar.-at-Law, Collector of South Kanara, dated the 29th May 1931, Dis. No. 34/31-Confdl.

I enclose a letter R.O.C. No. 572 Mis. 30–9, dated 18th May 1931, from the Special Settlement Officer, Party No. IV, Cannanore, for the orders of the Board with the following remarks.

2. *Reshuffling of wet classes.*—I invite Board's attention to paragraph 3 of Mr. Couchman's letter No. 907-Eng., dated 24th July 1901, reproduced at pages 159 and 160 of B.P. No. 41, Revenue Settlement, etc., dated 15th March 1902, as also paragraph 18 of the same Board's Proceedings which would clearly show that the definition of majals and bails was frequently changed while the classification was in progress at the time of the last settlement with the result that according to the classification made after October 1899, in which month the Deputy Commissioner adopted a new definition of majal, nearly all the lands other than bail were placed in the second class. This wrong classification was subsequently rectified, partly in office and partly by inspection before and after hearing by superior officers, thus granting a large amount of relief to ryots.

3. The Special Settlement Officer has found from the results of experimental inspection of fields in the ten selected villages, that only 13·97 per cent of the changes detected is due to errors in classification made at settlement. The greater percentage of the changes, viz., about 78·47, is reported to be due to

improvements effected by ryots themselves. This factor of improvement by ryots considered along with the difficulties set out in paragraph 6 of his report seems to justify the conclusion reached by the Special Settlement Officer in the last line of the paragraph and I support it therefore.

4. *Transfer of single-crop wet land to double crop.*—The percentage (9·75) of single-crop wet lands found on experimental inspection to be fit for treatment as 'double' crop, the accuracy of which is by itself uncertain is small. But the difficulties that present themselves in effecting the transfer seem great as detailed in paragraph 7 of the report. I therefore think that the question of compulsorily transferring single-crop lands without definite evidence of their growing two crops to 'double' crop or of levying an extra charge for the second crop if grown may be deferred until after the expiry of the period of the ensuing resettlement.

5. *Transfer from 'double' crop to single crop.*—The extent of this kind of land being negligible, I agree with the Special Settlement Officer that transfer to single crop is not necessary.

*Reference—F. No.* 2897/31-1 (*Confdl.*), *Revenue, dated 27th June* 1931.

Submitted to Government.

The Special Settlement Officer raises two points, the reclassification of wet land where the old settlement classification is now found to have altered, and the treatment of old settlement single-crop wet land which is now found to be under regular double-crop cultivation. The Board proceeds to examine these two points.

2. *Reclassification of wet lands.*—The Board notes that, as a result of the inspection that the Special Settlement Officer has carried out, it is probable that if the wet land of the district were to be reclassified according to its present state on the ground, there would be an increase of 2·87 per cent in the total wet assessment of the district. At the same time the Board observes that the Special Settlement Officer does not regard these results as altogether reliable; in the absence of cultivation accounts in South Kanara, the recorded details had to be ascertained by enquiry in the villages, and the Special Settlement Officer points out that it is not possible to say for certain whether such changes as he has found in the villages inspected are actually due to old settlement errors or to changes that have occurred subsequent to the old settlement.

To take up the correction of all cases where the present state of the ground oes not agree with the recorded classification would, in the Board's opinion, e a task that could not possibly be held to justify the expense and labour ıvolved. The Board therefore considers that no such attempt should be made nd that the classification noted at the last settlement should continue in all ases. In this connection the Board begs to point out that, judging by the esults of the experimental inspection, the balance of advantage will on the hole be in favour of the ryot, if the opinion held by the Special Settlement fficer and confirmed by the Board is accepted by Government. If Government gree with this view the Board will instruct the Special Settlement Officer not o entertain any application for altering the classification of wet land on the plea hat the present classification was an error at the old settlement; as a matter of rinciple it is, in the Board's opinion, undesirable to alter the classification of ome wet fields and to ignore the majority of changes.

3. *Double-crop cultivation on single-crop land.*—The system that was ıtroduced in South Kanara at the last settlement is that land that was found o be regularly growing two crops was then registered as double crop in the ccounts, and wet land that was then registered as single crop has since the last ettlement paid no extra charge for second-crop cultivation. The Special Settle- ıent Officer has carried out an experimental inspection to ascertain the extent

to which single-crop land now grows two crops regularly ; he finds that 9·75 per cent of the registered single-crop area under wet of all these classes is now fit for transfer to double crop. But here again he expresses a doubt of the accuracy of the results, which, as noticed above, are based on local enquiry, in the absence of cultivation accounts. In this there is a wide difference between South Kanara and the East Coast districts. It is a simple matter at the resettlement of an East Coast district to ascertain from the village accounts the extent of single-crop wet land that has been regularly cultivated with a second wet crop ; in South Kanara, as the Special Settlement Officer points out, it would be impossible for Government to meet any protest by the ryots by pointing to the cultivation recorded in the accounts. The Special Settlement Officer suggests, as a means of avoiding these difficulties, that the Malabar system may now be introduced into South Kanara. The Malabar system is to charge half the single-crop assessment for second-crop cultivation unless the ryot applies for registration as double crop, in which case he pays only 1¼ times the single-crop assessment.

The Board has carefully considered this suggestion and is decidedly of the opinion that it cannot be accepted. This proposal involves the complete abandonment of a system that has been in vogue since the old settlement was introduced in favour of an entirely new system ; and for that reason the Board considers that exceptionally strong reasons would have to be adduced before the proposal could be accepted. Such exceptionally strong reasons do not, in the Board's opinion, exist. The Special Settlement Officer bases his recommendation mainly on the fact that if it is not adopted Government would be losing a considerable amount of potential revenue. The Board admits the truth of this argument but it considers that the probable increase of revenue is more than counterbalanced by the undesirability of throwing overboard the existing system and introducing a system that is new to the ryots and new to the village officers.

The Board would also lay stress on this point of the strangeness of the Malabar system to the village officers. At the last settlement (paragraph 16 of G.O. No. 757, Revenue, dated 25th August 1902) Mr. Couchman went into the question of adopting the Malabar system and Government agreed with him that there were strong reasons against adopting such a system. The difficulty of regular field inspection with a view to recording second-crop cultivation was then brought out. The Board as at present constituted considers that as far as the configuration of the country goes there is very little difference in this respect between South Kanara and Malabar. But on administrative grounds it is strongly opposed to introducing a system of regular field-to field inspection to which the shanbogues have never been accustomed in the past.

On the whole therefore the Board is unable to recommend the proposal of the Special Settlement Officer, and considers that the present system should be retained at resettlement. If this view is accepted the question of registering some third-class wet land as double crop, to which the Special Settlement Officer refers at the end of his paragraph 7, does not arise.

4. *Transfer of double-crop lands to single crop.*—If the suggestion in the previous paragraph, that no change from single to double crop is to be made, is accepted by Government, there is no necessity to consider the question of transfers from double crop to single crop.

A. R. MacEwen,
*Secretary.*

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Appendices I to IV (in original) of the Special Settlement Officer's letter (to be returned).

**Order—No. 1802, Revenue, dated 21st August 1931.**

With its reference read above the Board of Revenue has submitted the proposals of the Special Settlement Officer, No. IV Party, regarding the reclassification at resettlement of wet lands in the South Kanara district.

2. The Board of Revenue has pointed out that in the South Kanara district no cultivation account is maintained to show the kind and the number of crops raised on the different classes of wet land and that it is not possible to say with certainty whether such variations as have been noticed between actual facts and the recorded classification are due to settlement errors or to improvements effected by the ryots. The Board therefore recommends

(1) that the existing classification of wet lands and soils may be left undisturbed at resettlement;

(2) that no change from single crop to double crop wet lands or vice versa should be made at resettlement; and

(3) that, having regard to the difficulties attending field inspection in the district, the existing system under which no extra charge is made during the currency of a settlement on account of a second crop grown on land not classed as double crop at settlement may be retained.

3. The proposals of the Board of Revenue specified in paragraph 2 above are tentatively approved by the Government for the purpose of enabling the Settlement Officer to prepare his Scheme report. The Board of Revenue is requested to issue to the Special Settlement Officer the instructions necessary to give effect to these orders.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. R. PATE,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement (with Appendices I to IV returned in original).
Copy to M. E. Couchman, Esq., C.M., I.C.S. (retired), Annandale, Woodland Grove, Weybridge, Surrey, England.

Rev dept

Subject :- Settlement = Resettlement (South Kanara) - wet lands - Reclassification - Proposals of the special settlement officer [Cro 2129 E/31] from the Board of Rev (dRR) Mep 7. 289.7/31-1 dt 27-6-1931

Previous papers
Go 757 Rev 25.8.02
Go 917 Rev 9-10-1902
Go 982 Rev 9-10-1905

To under Secy.

The Board's repre in the CF. relates to the proposals of the special Settlement Officer, South Kanara dt for the reclassification of wet lands in South Kanara dt. The three points raised are :-

para 2 - page 2 C7. (a) whether wet lands in South Kanara dt should be reclassified at resettlement according to its present state on the ground

3 - pages 2 - 4 C7. (b) how double crop cultivation on single crop wet lands should be treated. and

para 4 - page 4 C7. (c) Whether transfers should be allowed from double crop lands to single crop.

2/ The three points are noted on

[P.T.

in the sectional notes below.

I have added one or two remarks

8/7/31

11.7.31

O.K.
8/7/31

S.

Shall refer to the sectional
note. Fin. Shall also [illegible]

[illegible] 1374

[illegible] 1967

[When the file comes back I shall
see the question whether any officials
when should come at this stage.]

Fin

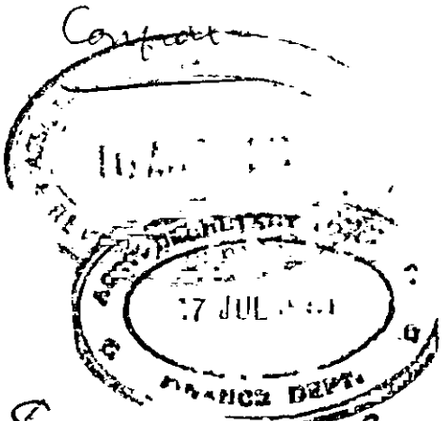
Rev. no. 2129 E31-1

1731

Finance (Accts)

The remarks of this deptt have been added to the Sectional notes on pages 4(a), 8(c) and 9 below.

20.7.31.




18.7.31
PVP
18.7.31

Seen by Secretary on 8 8 31
see pages 8(d) and below

Rev. no..

Fin. 21693 Accts
17.7.31

Fin. 21693 Accts
8/8/31.

2-(a)

Rev dept

To under Secy

Finance have agreed with this dept in the sectional notes supra submd for orders with reference to Secy's notes at p 2 supra. Attention is in this connection invited to the portions marked 'A' at page 3 and 'B' at page 4 of notes to G.O. No 147 Rev dt 23-1-1929. and the first sentence of paragraph 3 of order at page 14 of the G.O.

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11.8.31.

(S)

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O.K.
11/8/31

12.8.31

The proposals in the Sectional notes are therefore.

Hereafter when we may adopt a formula similar to that adopted in G.O 147 Rev dt. 23-1-29, para. 3.

(S)

12.8.31

13.8.31

12.8.31

C3 dd 13.8.31

12.8.31

P.T

To under Secy

A draft order is sent for approval.

18/8/31.

19.8.31

18/8/31

C.F. 31/8

para 2, p2 CF and para 9 above

Point (a). Whether ... wet lands in S. South Kanara dt should be reclassified at resettlement according to its present state on the ground.

The special settlement officer does not recommend any change in the classification of wet lands for the following reasons:—

(a) No cultivation account is maintained in the S. Kanara dt to show the kind and the number of crops raised on any particular wet land. The only basis for any change is the local enquiries to be conducted at the time of inspection with a view to ascertain the necessary particulars which would warrant a change. In the opinion of the S.S.O. such an enquiry would be valueless.

(b) A detailed inspection will be necessary if any change were to be undertaken. This will involve enormous work

(c) The result of experiments

inspection carried out in ten selected villages show that an increase in revenue which can be expected will amount only to 2.87 per cent over the existing assessment and this renders it doubtful whether the expenses involved by detailed inspection will adequately be compensated by the estimated increase in revenue.

The Board of Rev agrees with the S. S-o. on all these points and does not recommend any change in classification of wet lands. Following this principle the Board suggests that the S.S-o. should be asked not to entertain any applications for changes in classificatn from the ryots either. | para 2 p 2

Subd that for the reasons stated in Board's proposals we may be accepted.

S
17/7/31

Besides the reasons given, the market-value of the lands has also adjusted itself to the existing classifications. To change the classification I may

OK.
8/7/31

in some cases wherein pertaining to those
who purchased land recently. The Board's
recommendation may be approved

11.7.31

S. 13/7/31

Finance (Accounts)

para 2-page 6c7

On the basis of an experimental inspection
of ten villages, the Special Settlement Officer
has estimated the net increase of revenue

para 5- page 9c7

by a reclassification of the wet lands in
the South Kanara Dt., at about Rs. 54,307
per annum.

He has however stated that the Statistics based on
his experimental inspection cannot be taken

para 6-page 9c7

as accurately representing the State of things
on the ground and pointed out that the
expense involved in the elaborate and detailed

para 6-page 10c7

inspection of the total wet area of 424,695

Amp 10cF

acres will not be adequately compensated by the
estimated increase in revenue.

2 In the circumstances, it is submitted that this

A on page 10c9.
- para 4-4(a) above

dept. may agree with the Board of Revenue and
the Revenue dept. that no change need be made

in the existing wet classes and soils at resettlement.

18.7.31
PVP
18.7.31

20.7.31

Seen by Secretary
~~See para 8(d) & 9 below.~~

No change need be made

13.8.31

P.T.O

para 3, pp 244 F. as to above

para 7 of 3 of 3 of 1 for H 10 - 13 F

## Point (b) How double crop cultivation on single crop wet lands should be treated at re-settlement

The question as to what assessment should be levied on second crop on lands not classed as double crop at the settlement came up for consideration at the last settlement of the S. Kanara. The Govt ordered thereon as follows:-

para 4 - p 222 of Gp 75 of 1917 (Z) 20-8-22

> "Having regard to the difficulties attending field inspection in South Kanara and to the importance of encouraging the improvement of single crop lands, the Govt agree with the Commissioner and the Spl Settlement officer that no extra charge should be made during the currency of settlement on second crop grown on lands not classed as double crop at settlement."

Regarding the question as to what lands should be registered as double crop, the Govt ordered that the following should be registered as double crop viz

as settlement was commenced in the first class should be classified as such and charged a consolidated wet rate of 1¼ times the single crop rate; and

(ii) all land, as which though placed in the second class, a second wet crop has been regularly raised, should be classed as double crop and charged at the same consolidated rate.

It will thus be observed that at a last settlement occasional cultivation of second crop on single crop wet lands was not charged.

For the ensuing resettlement, the S.S.O. feels difficulty in the matter of charging for such cultivation for the following reasons viz.

(i) lack of reliable statistics for determination of the question whether a particular land was regularly cultivated with double crop. He however considers that to omit the charge of second crop cultivation altogether will be an unnecessary sacrifice of revenue *

p12 CF

to the Govt. ~~the S.S.O. considers~~ proposes that following the procedure in the last Malabar ~~re~~settlement the ryots should be allowed on application to compound the rate at 1½ times the single crop rate for single crop wet lands and by charging occasional second wet crop on single crop wet lands at half the single crop charg The S.S.O. considers that this would give an incentive to the ryots to compound and he expects that in course of time all possible double crop areas are likely to be compounded ... The Board of Rev is however against the proposals of the S.S.O. The Board observes that the proposals constitute the introduction of a new procedure. The Board admits the argument regarding the sacrifice of revenue but considers that the probable increase of revenue is more than counterbalanced by the undesirability of throwing overboard the existing system and the introduction of a system that is new to the ryots and new to the ~~ryots~~ village officers The Board also points out that the

Shanbogues of South Kanara are not accustomed to regular field to field inspection and that the proposal should be opposed on administrative grounds.

The Board's remarks seem correct for it would appear from Statement No 1 of the village Accounts for the South Kanara dt that the Shanbogue has only to proceed to the fields and make a fair estimate of the area cultivated with the several crops in the village. The purpose of this appears to be to help the compilation of statistical returns. Detailed field wise inspection is prescribed only for unauthorized occupation of Govt land. The Collr also is against the proposal of the S. Sec and that in view of the remarks of the Board this proposal to allow the existing system may continue viz that of levying any charge for second crop on single crop lands.

It will also be observed from the rules at ¶ 3 - 4 supra that there will be no change in the existing classification of wet lands.

8/7/31 OK 8/7/31

I submit that a question of principle is involved here. Ryots raising two crops, but whose lands were registered as single crop lands, escaped paying a charge on the second crop during the currency of the existing settlement, while those whose lands happened to be registered double crop lands paid 1¼ rates. Is this difference in treatment to be perpetuated? If the existing state of things is allowed to continue, the administrative reasons now advanced for not charging second crop on single crop lands can be advanced at every resettlement & the first class of ryots will be given a more or less permanent preferential treatment. The only important reason advanced for allowing the 'status quo' to continue is that the Shanbhogues are not accustomed to field to field inspection in the past. But unless Govt propose to allow the difference in treatment I have indicated for ever, this difficulty will have to be faced sooner or later. It is conceded that as far as the cultivator

country goes. There is very little difference between S. Kenara & Mayurum. The V.O.s in S. Kenara may be asked to do what is being done in Madeiran. The V.O.s may make mistakes in the beginning, but gradually I think they owing to the inducement to Compound refused to by the S.S.O. more & more ryots will apply to have their lands registered as Private Forest lands. The S.S.O's suggestion requires further consideration. There is also the question of foregoing revenue by Board's recommendation.

A on page 4 C 7

K on p 12 C F.

I would accept the Board's view, apart from the a priori objection which exists to such changes in any form there is the objection here that the inspection involved in this proposal will either be scamped or not done at all. That I understand is the fundamental objection of the Board's proposal. Approach under the conditions becomes a source of profit to the Karnam & harassment to the ryot; what Govt gains is lost at the cost of this reputation.

B on page 4 C 7

Further there is the practical

objection that the introduction of the proposed system would almost inevitably lead to a demand – which it would be hard to resist – for a general lowering down of the assessment on wet lands which under present conditions deserve a lower classification than that which they now bear for the purpose of the single crop lands principle.

1st 13.7.34

Finance (Accts)

The Special Settlement officer has pointed out that if registered Single crop wet land (raising regularly two wet crops) are left as such at resettlement and during the currency of resettlement, there will be an unnecessary sacrifice of revenue to Govt. No estimate has, however, been made of the amount of revenue involved.

The Board of Revenue while admitting the potential loss of revenue, considers, for administrative reasons, that the existing practice of levying no charge for second crop cultivation on Single crop lands should continue.

a 3–pp 3–4 c 7

The Revenue Secretary in agreeing with the Board has given also other reasons in support of his view.

pp 5 & 6(b) – 8 (1) alone

P.T.O.

It is for orders whether this deptt.
may agree with Revenue.

18.7.31
PVP
18.7.31

20.7.31

P.T.O

The Board's view may be accepted

31/7/31

nage 1 allow-
ed para 4,
page 4 C/F

Point (c) Whether transfers should be allowed from ~~single~~ double crop lands to ~~double~~ single crop If the recommendation of the Board of Rev (noted on) at pp 5- 8 supra were to be accepted the proposals of the S.S.O. under this head need not be considered.

The S.S.O does not recommend transfer from double crop to single crop. This may be accepted

VS 8/7/31. PK. 8/7/31

ZH 11.7.31. S.

KMS 13/7/31

The file may be sent to Finance for remarks.

ZH 11.7.31. S.

VS 8/7/31. PK. 8/7/31

Finance (Accts)

Submitted that this deptt may agree that transfers from double crop ~~lands~~ to single crop need not be allowed at resettlement.

VSL 20.7.31

R 18.7.31 PVP 18.7.31

PK.

Jaque 13.8.31

The End

C.F. 13/8/31

:ott II-5 (8)—12,004—6-11-28

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Revenue DEPARTMENT.

Settlement - Resettlement

(S Kanara) - wet lands - Reclassification - Orders passed

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 757 Rev., dated 25 - 8 - 1902 ~~193~~

" " " " 917 Rev. " 9 -10 - 1902 ~~192~~

*READ ALSO:—*

C. No. 2129-E/31 From the Board of Rev. (L.R & S) No. F. 2897/31-1, dated 27-6-31. ~~192~~

" " ..... " " ..... " ..... " ..... 192

" " ..... " " ..... " ..... " ..... 192

ORDER. No. 1802 dated 21- 8-31. 192

(PRESS)

Confidential.

With its reference read above the Board of Revenue has submitted the proposals of the Special Settlement Officer, No. IV Party, regarding the reclassification at resettlement of wet lands in the South Kanara district.

2. The Board of Revenue has pointed out that in the South Kanara district no cultivation account is maintained to show the kind and the number of crops raised on the different classes

of wet lands and that it is not possible to say with ~~any degree of~~ certainty whether such changes as have been ~~noticed in the villages inspected~~ are due to settlement errors or to improvements effected by the ryots. The Board therefore recommends

1. that the existing classification of wet lands and soils may be left undisturbed at resettlement ;

2. that no change from single crop to double crop wet lands or vice versa ~~need~~ be made at resettlement; and

3. that, having regard to the difficulties attending field inspection in the district, the existing system under which no extra charge is made during the currency of a settlement on account of a second crop grown on land not classed as double crop at settlement may be retained.

3. The proposals of the Board of Revenue specified in ~~para~~ paragraph 2 above are tentatively approved by the

Government for the purpose of enabling the Settlement Officer to prepare his scheme report. The Board of Revenue is requested to issue to the Special Settlement Officer the instructions necessary to give effect to these orders.

1st
1924

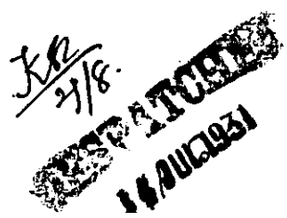
To

The Board of Revenue, (L.R & S)

Copy to M.E.Couchman Esq., C.S.I., I.C.S. (Retired)

Annandale, Woodland Grove,
Weybridge, Surrey, England.

19.8.31.



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